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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1408)

Name of Candidate	PRANAY MITTAL		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENGLISH	Registration Number	638100
Center	ONLINE	Date	27/01/2022

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
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6	10	
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9	10	
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11	15	
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13	15	
14	15	
15	15	
16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न–पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न–सह–उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

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All the Best

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1. Rural health care in India faces significant challenges. Elaborate. What can be done to deal with these challenges? **(150 words) 10**

भारत में ग्रामीण स्वास्थ्य देखभाल के समक्ष महत्वपूर्ण चुनौतियां विद्यमान हैं। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। इन चुनौतियों क दूर करने के लिए क्या किया जा सकता है?

As per National Family Health Survey-05 (NFHS-05), there is a stark difference of prevalence of Healthcare sector between urban and rural areas.

This is evident from various indicators such as prevalence of Hospitals, Beds per lakh population, Doctors per lakh population and reduced health outcomes in rural India.

Challenges with Rural Healthcare Sector

- Lack of resources and incentives for private sector to practice in Rural areas.
- Doctors are unwilling to work in rural areas due to lack of physical infrastructure, connectivity and poor social infrastructure for families and children education.
- Lack of Tertiary and Secondary healthcare in Rural Areas.
- Proliferation of Quacks which are untrained but popular due to cheap 'treatment'.

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- Neglect by Government: less number of ASHA workers, Midwifes in rural areas than the prescribed ratio.
  Poor infrastructure in Primary Healthcare Centers.

To overcome these challenges, the need is

- To increase government spending on Healthcare from present 1.5% to approx 3%.
- Making practicising in Rural areas renumerative for doctors and hospitals.
- Increase in insurance cover so that people prefer qualified healthcare over quacks
- Spreading awareness about government schemes to increase the beneficiary base.
- Roping in NGOs and civil society to act as catalyst for promotion of preventive healthcare in Rural India.

This way, we can increase the healthcares in Rural India and make productive workforce and remove inequalities.

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2. Provide a critical evaluation of the impact of globalization on the position of women in India. (150 words) 10

भारत में महिलाओं की स्थिति पर वैश्वीकरण के प्रभाव का समालोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

Globalisation is the phenomenon of increased inter-connectedness between different economies of the world and enhance exchange of economic, social, political and cultural ideas.

Impact of Globalisation ~~of~~ on Women

→ Positive Impact

- Gender neutral jobs
- Equal pay in jobs
- Increase of social status and emergence of Dual-career families and Conjugal-symmetrical families.
- Increased social interactions, formation of women clubs, increase in Women Whatsapp groups and peer feeling among women.

However, most of these changes are superficial and limited to only a small portion of women (that too in higher class societies).

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→ Negative Impact of Globalisation on women

- Emergence of Glass ceiling and increased discrimination against women.
- Economic and social exploitation.
- Sexual abuse and sexual exploitation causing mental harassment. Example, recent case of 'Bulli Bai' or 'Sulli Deals' apps.
- Feminisation of Agriculture merely due to migration of men to "globalised" world. Physical and economic burden to balance both household and economic work.
- Increase in isolation and "Concept of Ideal wife" by exchange of ideas over cinema or Television.

Thus, Globalisation proved to be a double edged sword for the women. The need is to judicially reap the benefits of interconnected world to ensure women empowerment and truly non-discriminatory society.

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3. It has been argued that private sector reduces education to the status of a commodity. In this context, discuss why education should be seen as a necessary public good. **(150 words) 10**

यह तर्क दिया जाता है कि निजी क्षेत्रक शिक्षा का दर्जा गिराकर उसे एक पण्य वस्तु की स्थिति में ला देता है। इस संदर्भ में, चर्चा कीजिए कि शिक्षा को एक आवश्यक सार्वजनिक वस्तु के रूप में क्यों देखा जाना चाहिए।

Education is the founding stone on which the entire structure of progressive, inclusive and developed society rests.

In recent times, it has been seen that education is reduced to just a commodity which divides the society between have's and havenot's.

The recent trend of digitalisation of education due to Covid-induced lockdown further increases the divide between rich and poor students.

In this context, It is necessary that education be seen as a necessary public good:

- To have inclusive, equitable and all-encompassing education system.
- To remove perpetuity of poverty and lack of education to certain section of society.

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- To remove social discrimination and give effect to equality as enshrined in constitution under article 14, 15 and 16.
- Amartya Sen's Concept of Capability Approach to remove poverty and pursue development.

Education

Private commodity
↓
Increases the gulf between rich and poor.
↓
Perpetuation of poverty in certain section
↓
Violates the constitutional provisions and John Rawls's concept of Justice.

Public Good
↓
Equity in education
↓
Equal opportunities
↓
Reduces social clearages
↓
Promote harmony.

Thus, education as a public good is necessary to have affordable, accessible and inclusive education to all. Right to Education under article 21 A and RTE Act, 2006 are steps in right direction. New Policy on Education 2021 further reinforces the idea of Education as a necessary public good.

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4. Despite undertaking many initiatives, malnutrition continues to be a matter of concern for India. Analyse. **(150 words) 10**

अनेक पहलों के बावजूद, कुपोषण भारत के लिए निरंतर चिंता का एक विषय बना हुआ है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

India ranks poorly on Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index and Global Hunger Index, despite various government and civil society initiatives.

MPI → 102 out of 148 countries.

Initiatives taken to remove malnutrition

- Green Revolution
- National Food Security Mission.
- Public Distribution System.
- Poverty alleviation programmes such as MGNREGA, RURBAN Mission and NRLM, etc.
- Mid-day meal scheme, ICDS (Integrated Child Development schemes.

Despite these initiative, the malnutrition is a menace in India. As per NFHS-05.

Undunutrition → 38%. Anamia → 49% among women
Stunting → 32%.
Wasting → 19%. Malnutrition → ~60%.

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Reasons for perpetuation of Malnutrition

- Focus on 'stomach filling' rather than nutritions - based focus.
- Inclusion and exclusion errors in Government Schemes. Non-portability of Ration Cards and apathy by government officials in PDS distribution.
- Corruption and leakages in food delivery.
- Lack of Bio-fortification and R&D in nutritious crops..
- Lack of awareness among the people to have nutritional diet.
- The availability, accessibility, affordability of nutritious diet is the root cause of all malnutrition.
- Divergences among various schemes.

The need of the hour is to have holistic, comprehensive and inclusive government efforts to remove the menace of malnutrition and realise the committment under SDG - 02 ⇒ Remove hunger in all its forms from everywhere.

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5. Critically discuss the idea that followers of a religion share not only a community of religious interests but also common secular interests.

(150 words) 10

इस विचार की समालोचनात्मक विवेचना कीजिए कि किसी धर्म के अनुयायी न केवल धार्मिक हितों वाले एक समुदाय को अपितु सर्वनिष्ठ धर्मनिरपेक्ष हितों को भी साझा करते हैं।

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6. The constant and aggravated contact with the Western culture has had an erosional impact on the Indian value system. Critically discuss.

(150 words) 10

पश्चिमी संस्कृति के साथ निरंतर और अतिशय संपर्क का भारतीय मूल्य व्यवस्था पर क्षरणकारी प्रभाव पड़ा है। समालोचनात्मक विवेचना कीजिए।

Due to increase in Globalisation, the people of India have come in contact with western culture which is influencing the Indian Value System.

Traditional Value system	Forces of Change	Modern Value System
Patriarchy	Globalisation	Gender symmetry
Community-living	Modernisation	Anonymous living
Caste-based division	Urbanisation	Egalitarian
~~Egalitarian~~	Modern Education System	Nuclear families
Joint family		Particularism
Universalism		Rational Thinking
Spiritualism		

However, the contact with western culture has not all-together eroded the Indian Value System.

This can be seen in the Hybridisation of the two cultures and Revival of the local culture.

For example: Khadi jeans, McDonalds not

selling beef in India, Emergence of Herbal products in vanity kits are the example of hybridisation of the two cultures.

Cultural revival can be seen in the emergence of Yoga on the global platform and assertion of caste identities to gain political mileage and affirmative action.

Thus, it can be seen that the impact of globalisation has resulted in positive absorption of the local culture and confluence of the two cultures rather than erosion of the Indian value system.

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7. A dispersed pattern of urbanisation leads to sprawl with associated problems. In this context, discuss how India should manage the inevitable process of urban growth going into the future. (150 words) 10

शहरीकरण का प्रकीर्णित पैटर्न संबंधित समस्याओं से युक्त अव्यवस्थित फैलाव का मार्ग प्रशस्त करता है। इस संदर्भ में, चर्चा कीजिए कि भारत को भविष्य में होने वाली शहरी विकास की अपरिहार्य प्रक्रिया का प्रबंधन किस प्रकार करना चाहिए।

Urbanisation is the process of rapid increase in migration from rural to urban areas and expansion of Urban areas to accomodate the bulging population. Urbanisation is evident in India due to increased globalisation and industrialisation.

Urbanisation and associated problems

- Congestion and increased traffic. Long journey times.
- Pollution and Health problems.
- Slums proliferation and neglect of Clean Drinking Water, Sanitation and Hygiene.
- Increase in Crimes and social clearages.
- Overburdening of civic amenities and physical infrastructure.

→ Haphazding nature of Urbanisation without planning leads to breakdown of civic amenities and increased hardships for residents.

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Ways to manage rapid Urbanisation

- Satellite towns : where work and home are nearby ⇒ reduced journey and traffic.
- Planned developments preceding sprawl of living spaces. Basic amenities should reach before the construction of houses.
- Development of counter - megacities : For example Pune for Mumbai and Chandigarh for Delhi.
- Robust Transportation system such as Metros, dedicated BRTs and last mile connectivity projects.
- Increase in budgets, workforce and devolution of functions to civic Municipal bodies as per letter and spirit of 74th Constitutional Amendment Act.

This way, Indian Cities can be well-prepared to handle the inevitable bulge in urban growth and urbanisation.

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8. Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) are in dire need of focused attention in view of the problems they are facing. Discuss. **(150 words) 10**

विशेष रूप से कमज़ोर जनजातीय समूहों (PVTGs) द्वारा सामना की जा रही समस्याओं के आलोक में, उन पर विशिष्ट ध्यान केंद्रित करने की सख्त आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

As per GoI records, there are 75 PVTGs in different parts of India. They are defined by their traits of primitive technological development and level of integration in mainstream society.

Problems faced by PVTGs

- Cornering of Affirmative action benefits by other ST groups
- Exploitation by political leaders, moneylenders, sarpanchs, etc.
- Ghettoisation and social seclusion based on discrimination and prejudices.
- Utilitarian development projects render them homeless and forced eviction.
- Notion that they act as hindrance in implementation of forest laws and harm the forests.
- Apathetic attitude of the civil servants and bureaucrats.

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Give need of Targetted focused attention towards PVTGs.

- Concept of Creamy layer can be applied to ST reservation. Horizontal distribution of affirmative action.
- Sensitization of Civil Servants and bureaucrats to be empathetic towards PVTGs.
- Understanding their culture, way of living and aspirations by the civil society and government officials for accomodative and participative delivery of government services.
- Strict rules for government officials who misconduct, exploit or sexually abuse the PVTGs.
- Strengthening the Local bodies and Schedule V and schedule VI area development programmes.
- Mainstreaming them in the Indian society while preserving their own culture and identities.

This way, a major section of Indian Society can be given the benefits of 21st century progressive India.

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9. Highlight the challenges associated with the rising number of old age dependents in India. What can be done to deal with these challenges? **(150 words) 10**

भारत में वृद्ध आश्रितों की बढ़ती संख्या से संबद्ध चुनौतियों पर प्रकाश डालिए। इन चुनौतियों को दूर करने के लिए क्या किया जा सकता है?

As per NFHS-05, India's population is stabilising and there is increase in life expectancy of Indian people.

The fraction of old age is to increase from 8% to 16% by the year 2041.

Challenges associated with rising number of old age population

- Increase in dependency ratio on the working age population.
- Increase in healthcare spending.
- Rise in instances of domestic violence against senior citizens, expulsion from families and mental trauma to old age people.
- Increase in loneliness due to social exclusion and restriction on mobility due to age and health issues.
- Lack of financial independence and dependence on family and relatives for old-age life.

Steps needed to holistically alleviate the learnees and make India a better place for old age people are as follows:

- Increase in Silver Economy: Old age healthcare, Telecommunication, care-takers and nurses to have support to old age people
- Increase in government spending for the old age programmes such as Old age Pension scheme and dedicated insurance products for old age people.
- Awareness among senior citizens of the different government schemes available for them.
- Awareness among society and family members about the benefits of senior citizens in cultivating value system in the children and family.
- Mental healthcare tele-lines and specific programmes on Television.
- Adoption of Universal and old-age technology in government service delivery, for example, doing away with mandatory physical visit to Treasury to avail regular pension can be digitalized.

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10. Highlight the impact of drug addiction on individuals, families and society. In this context, discuss the approach adopted by National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction. **(150 words) 10**

व्यक्तियों, परिवारों और समाज पर मादक पदार्थों की लत के प्रभाव पर प्रकाश डालिए। इस संदर्भ में, 'मादक पदार्थों की मांग में कटौती के लिए राष्ट्रीय कार्ययोजना' द्वारा अपनाए गए दृष्टिकोण की विवेचना कीजिए।

Impact of Drug Addiction on the health and social fabric of India can be studied through

- Impact on Individual
  - Health issues.
  - Loss of business, capital or job.
  - Lack of social interaction and social exclusion.
  - Capital loss. and dissonance. Further urge to drugs.
  - Penal provision leads to disintegration from family.
- Impact on Families
  - Disintegration and instances of domestic violence.
  - Loss of bread-winner to menace of drugs.
  - Poor educational, health and social capital.
  - Increased divorces and litigation.
- Impact on Society
  - Increase in crime rates.
  - Bolstering the anti social and terrorist activities
  - Funding to terrorist organisations.
  - Social clearages and increase in non-productive youth. Socio graphic Divide / Demographic Dividend

approach by National Action Plan on Drug Demand Reduction.

- Spreading awareness among the society and the drug-taking youth.
- Stopping the illegal cultivation of drugs and curtailing the anti social funding to drug rackets
- Arresting the people involved in commercial selling of drugs.
- Rehabilitation facilities for personal consumer of drugs when they get caught instead of punishment.

  Reformative Justice rather than Retributive Justice
- Social support to the affected families
- Allowing the use of drugs for rehabilitative and medical purposes.

Thus, the need is to curb the menace of drug holistically, comprehensively and taking all stakeholders onboard.

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11. A Uniform Civil Code is a much needed step for India to move forward in the 21st century. Critically analyse. (250 words) 15

21वीं सदी में आगे बढ़ने हेतु एक समान नागरिक संहिता भारत के लिए एक अत्यंत आवश्यक कदम है। समालोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए।

The constitution makers have incorporated the Uniform Civil Code in Article 44 of Indian Constition as Directive Principles of State Policy. That is, it is fundamental in the governance of the country. However the government has to implement it based on time and development, hence kept it as DPSP.

Uniform Civil Code is a stepping stone

→ Political significance
- One-nation - one rule - one law.
- Ease of governance.
- Equitable distribution of resource. Thus giving strength to article 14.

→ Judicial burden reduced
- Less number of legislations
- Less cumbrome judicial process.

→ Social significance

- Bring uniformity in the society by realisation of progressive ideas into a common law.
- Boost the values enshrined in Preamble of Justice, Equality, Fraternity and brotherhood.
- Reduces prejudices.

However, implementing UCC without proper deliberation can be counter-productive.

→ Political aspects
- Against the fundamental rights of article 21, 25 and 29 of Constitution.
- Against the concept of secularism

→ Social impact
- Imposition of dominant culture on the minorities in the garb of bringing uniformity.
- May result in social unrest and could lead to civil war. For example: when Srilanka

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(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

tried to impose Sinhalese as uniform culture, it resulted in years of civil unrest.

- fire impetus to feelings of secession and boost the activities of anti-national anti-social elements.

Thus the need is to have a deliberation extensively on the topic. All the stakeholders must be consulted and there should be gradual and progressive implementation of ~~Uniform~~ progressive culture. Any attempt to implement UCC in a shot will be counter-productive. The need is to remove the derogatory and un-humanly practices from various cultures.

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12. In India, geography, identity and a sense of deprivation have historically combined to drive regionalism. Elaborate. **(250 words) 15**

भारत में भूगोल, पहचान और वंचना की भावना ने ऐतिहासिक रूप से संयुक्त होकर क्षेत्रवाद को बढ़ावा दिया है। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

Regionalism is defined as the tendency to support and promote regional interests at the cost of National interests.

When the political groups try to influence people based on narrow regional interests and do politics over the issues, it is known as Regionalism.

Regionalism in India has been driven by various factors.

- Geography:
  - It is the basis of regionalism.
  - People associate with the land and the society based on a continous homogeneous region having distinct properties than surrounding areas.
  - For example: North-East people derive their identity from the geography. For example

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People of Uttarakhand demanded separate state based on Geography.

- **Identity**: When people derive their identity from the regional conditions, it give rise to regionalism.
  - For example: People in Kashmir valley are different from the people of Jammu give rise to regionalism.
  - This encompasses that people have different identities have different aspirations, even at the cost of others' interests.

- **Sense of Deprivation**
  - "Subjective Realisation of Objective Reality" is the founding stone of regionalism.
  - When political groups invoke the feeling of deprivation based on objective realities, it results into regionalism.
  - For example: In Jammu and Kashmir, the

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richer class was predominantly Hindus and worker, peasant class was composed of Muslims. This was the objective reality. But when local leaders invoked the religious sentiments based on this objective reality, it leads to unrest.

Thus the need is to overcome these bottlenecks and promote national interest, harmony and brotherhood through increased interaction, awareness and overlapping identities among the people.

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13. According to the WHO, health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well being. In this context, discuss emerging trends in mental health issues in India. (250 words) 15

WHO के अनुसार, स्वास्थ्य वस्तुतः पूर्ण शारीरिक, मानसिक और सामाजिक कल्याण की एक स्थिति है। इस संदर्भ में, भारत में मानसिक स्वास्थ्य समस्याओं में उभरती हुई प्रवृत्तियों की विवेचना कीजिए।

As per WHO, there is a rising trend of Non-communicable diseases and mental health issues emerging from the changed lifestyle and social interactions due to Covid induced lockdowns.

In this regard, emerging trends of mental health in India is a worrisome issue.

Reasons

- Infrequent and limited social interactions.
- Families staying apart during lockdown.
- Feeling of "Getting stuck".
- Work load on frontline workers and health workers. One hand have to balance health emergency and have to take steps for well being of family.

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- Excersise increases dopamine levels. Reduced physical excercise reduced the dopamine, exgerratig the mental health issues.
- The same dopamine increases due to social interaction with loved ones. The lockdown results in restricted interactions.

Challenges in addressing Mental Health issues

- Stigma attached to mental health issues.
- Lack of awareness and lack of knowledge when to seek medical advice.
- Lack of trained psychological experts.
- Mental health issues = Psycho or Mindless person.
- lack of family support during the mental health issues.
- Throwing mental issues under the carpet by families.

Way forward to overcome challenges

- Social awareness about the impact of mental health on physical, social and personal life of an individual.

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- Government efforts to increase awareness through Television, advertisement, etc
- Roping in NGOs and civil society to support the mental health victims and their families.
- Nubbing the bud: Medical intervention on small incidences of mental health issues.
- Removing the Stigma.
- Psychological experts and psychotherapists attached with government hospitals to proactively guide people.
- Release of Mental Wellbeing handbook.
- Promotion of Desk-based, Home-based Yoga and Physical excersises.

Thus, dedicated, targetted efforts are required to tackle the increasing burden of mental health issues and ensure overall wellbeing of 21st century Indian population.

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14. What are the challenges associated with cultural diversity in India? How has India been able to accommodate and manage this cultural diversity? **(250 words) 15**

भारत में सांस्कृतिक विविधता से जुड़ी चुनौतियां क्या हैं? भारत इस सांस्कृतिक विविधता को समायोजित और प्रबंधित करने में किस प्रकार सफल रहा है?

India is a land of diversity and always promote the "Unity in Diversity".

Cultural Diversity is defined as the presence of different cultures at a geographical region at the same time, all living and prospering together.

Challenges to cultural Diversity in India

- Prevalence of thousands of different cultures deriving their identities from different sources.
- Politics: Vote-bank politics over cultural diversity to influence people based on 'subjective Realisation of objective reality' and inducing feeling of relative deprivation.
- Anti-social elements: tries to invoke the religious, communal or cast-based sentiments of the people to create social unrest.

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- Historical underpinnings in India and Worldwide fuels communal sentiments when there is feeling of discrimination or relative deprivation

- Foreign elements tries to invoke the group based identities to create cleavage in social fabric of the country.

India, throughout its history and more after Independence has been accomodative in promoting feeling of brotherhood among the people of India.

India managing its cultural diversity well

- Constitution: The constitution guarantees every citizen equal political, social and economic opportunities and promote the brotherhood and fraternity.

- Fundamental Rights: given to every citizen helps in checking the arbitrary state power to impose dominant culture over the minorities. Article 14, 21, 19, 25 and 29 and 30 of Constitution.

- Judiciary: has been instrumental in safeguarding the interests of every person through its various judgements and expanded the scope of Fundamental Rights.
- Civil society: Various NGOs and civil society organisation works together to promote brotherhood and remove prejudices.
- Cooperative Federalism: To promote regional aspirations while maintaining the unity and integrity of the country.
- Non-imposition of dominant culture is the basic founding stone of "Unity in Diversity". For example when Sri Lanka tried imposing Sinhalese culture on its citizen, it results in civil unrest.

Thus, through these measures, various cultures are flourishing and prospering together in India.

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15. The high incidence of poverty combined with multiple deprivations among poor is the most important development challenge for India. Discuss.

(250 words) 15

निर्धनों के मध्य व्याप्त अनेक अपवंचनाओं के साथ संयुक्त निर्धनता की उच्च व्यापकता, भारत के लिए सर्वाधिक महत्वपूर्ण विकासात्मक चुनौती है। चर्चा कीजिए।

India ranks at 101 position among 148 countries on Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index.

Poverty →
- Economic
- Health and Educational
- Social
- Political.
- Standard of Living

The menace of multi-dimensional poverty is a big challenge in the growth and development of India and realise the vision of $5 trillion economy. Also, the committment under SDG-01 requires elimination of all kind of poverty.

Reasons:

- Political Neglect of the poor and ~~reminding~~ remembering them only during elections.
- Rich and Poor divide
  - 10% richest population => greater than 75% wealth.
  - Bottom 50% population => less than 10% of wealth.

This is evident in culmination of slums besides the high-rise gated societies.

- Discrimination and overlapping caste-based and class-based identities.
- Agriculture in Distress and non-remunerative rural economy.
- Jump from Primary sector to Teritiary sector without enlarging the labour-intensive industrial sector.
- Unskilled workforce to meet the industrial requirements of 21st century India.
- Neglect of Health and dominance of private money-sucking hospitals in Health care sector.
  Also, the lack of insurance to poor results in increasing poverty during a medical shock.
- Neglect of Education : We might have achieved greater Gross-Enrollment Ratio, however the quality of education and numerical and literacy indicators are showing deterioration in quality of education.

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Steps to be taken to remove Multi Dimensional Poverty

- Dedicated and inclusive political efforts based on principles of equity and support to poor. Article 15, 16 and 39 of constitution.
- Rationalisation of tax regime and government schemes for the upliftment of poor. For example: Antodaya Anna Yojana, MGNREGA and Ayushmann Bharat are steps in right direction.
- Greater focus on reaping the benefits of Demographic dividend through enhanced health and educational efforts.
- Applying Amartya Sen's Concept of Common Good and Capability Approach.
- Roping in of NGOs, civil societies and holistic channelisation of foreign funds from multilateral organisations such as UNDP.
- Efforts to stop the climate change driven poverty and steps to mitigate it.

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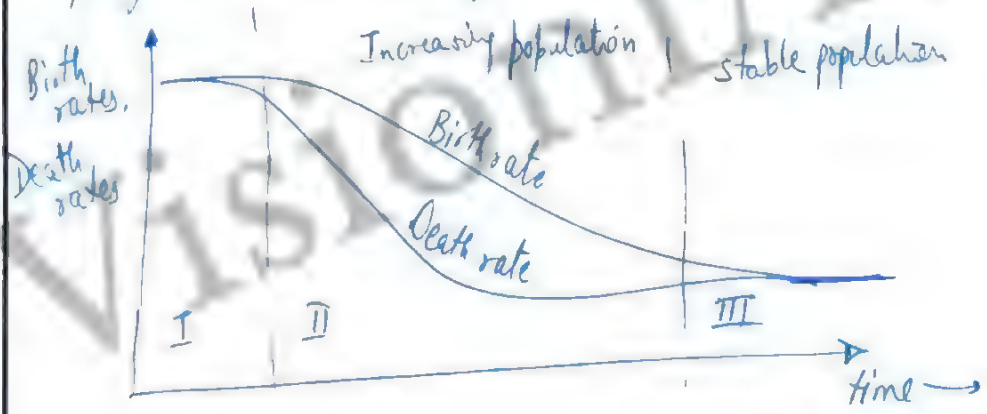
16. Highlighting the population growth trend of India in the last few decades, identify the key contributing factors behind this trend. **(250 words) 15**

विगत कुछ दशकों में भारत की जनसंख्या वृद्धि की प्रवृत्ति को रेखांकित करते हुए, इस प्रवृत्ति में योगदान करने वाले प्रमुख कारकों की पहचान कीजिए।

According to National Family Health Survey-05 (NFHS-05), the average reproductive rate or fertility rate in India is below the replacement level of 2·1.

This shows India is progressing towards a progressive trends of demographic scale.



India has entered this phase demographic trend.

Also, the Demographic dividend is to peak between 2041-2045 in India.

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Population growth trends

- Sex Ratio at Birth increased to 929 from 919 in NFHS-05 and NFHS-04 respectively.
- Sex Ratio overall is in favour of women at 1022 females per thousand males.
- Increase in working age population.
- Increasing trends toward increase in old-age population that is going to bulge in future.

Key factors contributing to Population Growth Trends

- Social factors: Progressive society, Dual career families resulting in less number of children per female.
- Improved medical technology: Increase in life expectancy and greater survival rates. This nudges families to have lower number of children.
- Government interventions: Family planning schemes and intervention resulting in increased

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awareness about maternal health and autonomy over reproductive rights to women.

- Increased prevalence of contraceptives and increase in their acceptance by the households.

- Education: Women education increased in recent past. This is driving the population growth trends and educated women tends to have better family planning and improved health outcomes.

However, the need is to enhance the capability, health outcomes and skilling of the population to reap the benefits of Demographic Dividend.

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17. Caste in India has maintained its political significance despite dilution of its social character. Discuss with relevant examples. (250 words) 15

भारत में जाति के सामाजिक चरित्र के कमजोर हो जाने के बावजूद इसने अपना राजनीतिक महत्व बनाए रखा है। प्रासंगिक उदाहरणों के साथ चर्चा कीजिए।

Caste in India is a social reality and has been driving the growth trajectory of India.

Caste and Political Significance

- Caste identities have got consolidated in the political spheres due to caste-based politics and race towards reservation.
- From caste based stigma ⇒ Assertion of Caste Identities.
- Constitution given enough protection to every caste group to flourish and prosper. Also the provisions of Article 15, 16 and 39 have promoted the Affirmative action by the government.
- The Caste got its political significance further enforced by Mandalization of caste system and hoarding to such towards caste [illegible] during elections.

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- For example: Every caste (even though historically dominant class) such as Jats in Haryana and Marathas in Maharastra are asserting their caste identities to reap benefits of affirmative action and voice in political sphere.

Caste and Dillution of its social Character

Reasons:

- Emergence of caste-neutral jobs in industrial sector.
- Anonymous living in urban areas and greater interactions in common spaces transcending caste based divisions.
- Emergence of educated and enlightened middle class which do not base their social interactions on caste-lines.
- Increase in Inter-caste marriages
- Greater interaction in public sphere has resulted in reduced prejudices.

However, the caste is still dominant in the personal spheres such as Endogamy in marriages

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and assertion of religious identities.

Example of Dilution of Caste identities in social sphere: Anonymous living and common dining in restaurants reducing the social character of Caste.

Dominantion of Caste in Personal sphere:
Endogamy in marriages and increased instances of honour killing describes that caste based identities still influence the social sphere.

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18. It can be argued that caste like social stratification is a feature present across religious distinctions in India. Discuss. **(250 words) 15**

यह तर्क दिया जा सकता है कि जाति जैसा सामाजिक स्तरीकरण भारत में सभी धार्मिक संप्रदायों में विद्यमान एक विशेषता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Historically, it has been described that caste based social stratification is prevalent in Hindu society. However, on closer inspection, it can be said that caste like social stratification is present across religious distinctions in India.

For example:

- Shia and Sunni divide among the Muslim communities.
- Shvetambara and Digambara Jain communities.
- Ramdasia Sikhs, Ravidasia Sikhs and Nihangs among Sikhism.
- Mahayana school, Hinayana school and Vajrayana school among the Buddhist religion

From these examples, it is clear that caste like divisions are present across different religious distinctions.

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features of these stratification which are similar to caste-based social stratification.

- Restricted mobility.
- Different practices and cultures.
- Assertion of one's identity over other's identities.
- Social clearages among different sects.

However, such classification among different religions is different from the caste-based social stratification

- Horizontal distinctions among such sects rather than vertical stratification based on social hierarchy in caste-based divisions.
- These divisions are based on concept of different cultural practices. Whereas caste-based stratification is rooted in principle of purity and pollution and social division of labour.

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- Politically also, such classification among different religions are clubbed together for government policies. For example, no distinction between Jain community or Buddhist community in state policies example reservation.

However, there is consolidation of caste identities to give effect to affirmative actions of the state.

Thus, even though there are different sects, subgroups or cults across different religions that look like caste-like social stratification, however they are essentially different from caste-based social stratification.

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19. What are some of the problems faced by migrants in urban areas in India? Suggest some policy reforms to address these problems. (250 words) 15

भारत में शहरी क्षेत्रों में प्रवासियों द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली कुछ समस्याएं क्या हैं? इन समस्याओं के समाधान के लिए कुछ नीतिगत सुधारों का सुझाव दीजिए।

The recent incidences of covid-induced lockdowns revealed the weak fabric of migration policies in India.

Problems faced by Migrants in Urban Areas

- Economic Hardships
  - Unable to garner the PDS ration due to non-portability of Ration Card.
  - Informal nature of jobs without any job security or social security benefits.
  - Less wages and exploitation by the employers

- Living Conditions
  - Neglect of Clean Water, Sanitation and Health (WASH) by the government administration and the people themselves
  - Proliferation of slums and unhygienic living conditions
  - Prevalence of crimes such as burglary and [illegible]

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- **Social Discrimination**
  - Son-of-the-Soil Theory.
  - For example: Migrants of UP and Bihar are discriminated in Maharastra.
  - Social profiling and action against the whole community based on social groups.
    For example: exodus of North East People from Bangalore after circulation of fake news.
- **Neglect of Education and Health**
  - Poor family growth ⇒ Less social capital.
  - Perpetuation of poverty.

→ **Some Policy Reforms to address these problems**

- **Government Efforts**
  - Increased portability of Ration Cards so that migrants can avail the benefits of PDS both in source and destination areas.
  - Dedicated targetted efforts to upliftment of living conditions. In this case, the concept of Urban houses can be beneficial.

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- Increase in beneficiary base and constructed houses under JLN-NULM.

- Sensitization of Administration
  - To be emphatic and compassionate about the grievances of poor migrants.
  - Holistic delivery of social benefits such as PDS, Ayushmann Bharat to promote inclusive Growth

- Awareness among society
  - To remove prejudices.
  - Better acceptance of cultural, religious and ethnic diversities ⇒ Unity in Diversity.

- Roping in NGOs, Civil societies and Religious Heads:
  - To be a social support and safety nets in case of shocks such as Covid lockdowns.
  - To increase interactions in order to remove prejudices.

This way, the values enshrined in Constitution under article 14, 19, 21 and 39 can be realised for inclusive and equitable development.

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20. Highlight the need and challenges of mainstreaming vocational education in India. What measures have been taken by the government in this regard? **(250 words) 15**

भारत में व्यावसायिक शिक्षा को मुख्यधारा में लाने की आवश्यकता और चुनौतियों पर प्रकाश डालिए। इस संबंध में सरकार द्वारा क्या उपाय किए गए हैं?

Vocational Education is one of the main ingredient to reap the benefits of Demographic Dividend and to realise the vision of $5 trillion economy.

Need for mainstreaming Vocational education

- ✓ Reap the higher quantity of Working age population to ensure productive, progressive nation.
- ✓ Upliftment of poor and a blow to perpetuating poverty.
- ✓ People work ⇒ Earn and increase standard of living ⇓ less deprivation ⇓ Reduced social unrest ⇓ Peaceful society ⇑ Greater social capital eg education, health ⇑ People work
- ✓ Bottom up Approach: Inclusive and equitable growth which can be sustained for long.

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Challenges

- **Political**
  - Neglect of vocational courses.
  - Vote bank politics ⇒ discrimination in state efforts.
  - Support to capitalism more than labour-intensive sectors.
- **Social**
  - Caste and class based discrimination and division of labour.
  - People have accepted their 'fate' and 'poverty' ⇒ Unwilling to work.
  - Government efforts taken as means of sustenance.
- **Infrastructural**
  - Lack of skilling institutes and professionals
  - Lack of sync between academia and industry.
- **Stigma with Vocational courses**
  - For the dumb students. Bright students not taking vocational courses.
  - As a measure of last resort.
- **Industrial sector Neglect**
  - Unwilling to come with vocational programmes in collaboration with academia
  - Lack of renumeration to apprentices and prevalence of casual labour.

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Measures taken by Government in this Regard

- **Skilling Infrastructure**
  - Opening of new 'Kaushal Vikas Kendras'
  - Ensuring sufficient funds to these institutions.
- **Policy**
  - PM Kaushal Vikas Yojana.
  - Support to allied activities in rural India
  - RURBAN mission.
- **Roping in Industries**
  - Enhanced collaboration between academia and industries
  - National Apprenticeship Training Scheme.
  - Sharing of stipend by government and industries in ratio of 50:50.
- **Advisements and awareness**
  - Through Television ads and hoardings on railway and metro stations to increase awareness among youth.

Thus, the vocational education is a must to realise India's True growth potential and work towards SDG goals 01, 02, 08, 09.

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